

**Environmental Commission
Meeting Minutes
October 2, 2013**

In Attendance:

Dave Colteryahn, chair
Greg LoBuono, vice-chair
Veronica Craig, recording secretary
Tom Nault
Mitch Rhodus
Chuck Ullrich
Bob Schappacher, Parks and Recreation Representative

Absent: Brian DeRoo, Becky Montag, Rodney Spencer

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by chairperson Dave Colteryahn.

Minutes: The minutes for the September 4th meeting were approved with no corrections.

Standing Business

Correspondence/Articles: Dave shared an insert in the Cincinnati Bell phonebook outlining acceptable recycling options for outdated books. They may be placed in home recycling containers as part of a family's weekly pickup, or can be dropped off at any of the large, community recycling stations located throughout Fairfield.

Veronica's article tied in with a recent EC discussion about who may harvest and use fruit from the 20 to 30 orchard trees planted at Huffman Park. Dave has experience in maintaining fruit trees because he had an orchard and has offered to help Parks Dept. with pruning, etc.

EC Activity Hours: Dave/2, Greg/2, Becky/1.5, Tom/2, Chuck/2, Veronica/2.

Adopt-a-Roadway: Greg did the most recent cleanup and was pleased to report that there was only ½ a bag of trash. Veronica and her grandsons will do the next cleanup.

Parks Board Report

Rodney Spencer, Parks Board Liaison, was unable to attend this meeting, so Bob made the report. Parks Board felt the name "Pleasant Run Honor Grove" was confusing because Pleasant Run School and community are located nearby (just into Hamilton County). The Board prefers "Creekside Park." Discussion followed. The EC feels that the focus of this property is a memorial or honor grove, with trees costing \$300 to \$600 each. Moreover, many communities throughout the U.S. have created these legacy groves and proudly maintain them as such.

Because of the restrictions on this reclaimed land, FEMA will not allow playground equipment, paved sidewalks or parking areas, lighting, picnic tables or shelters in this area. The EC envisioned a special use for this land, different from the City's other 37 parks. The EC suggested that the sign, which will be located at Nilles and Banker, read "Honor Grove at Creekside Park," thus recognizing a designated and maintained tribute area. Bob will e-mail the Board with the EC's concerns and their alternate name choice. If more discussion is necessary, the EC may attend Parks Board's next meeting on October 15th.

Parks Department Report

Website Update: Bob included last month's statistics in this meeting packet. The number of visits is about the same as it has been throughout the summer.

Honor Grove update: The irrigation system is ready to be installed as soon as duties at the golf courses wind down this fall. It will only take a few days of work.

Other Business

Living Legacy Tree Program: Bob attached a prototype for the brochure which will explain the program, costs, options, etc. for those interested in purchasing trees.

Meeting Change: The EC voted to hold their next meeting (November 6, 2013) at the Water Plant on Groh Lane. Dave will make the necessary arrangements.

Calendar:

Parks Board Meeting – October 15, 2013 at 6:00 pm, CAC

EC Meeting – November 6, 2013 at 6:00 pm, Water Plant, Groh Lane

Adjournment: at 7:23 pm.